



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,519	01/14/2005	Gregor John McLennan Anderson	PG4657USw	5645
23347	7590	03/17/2008		
GLAXOSMITHKLINE CORPORATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, MAI B475 FIVE MOORE DR., PO BOX 13398 RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709-3398			EXAMINER KUMAR, RAKESH	
			ART UNIT 3651	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 03/17/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

USCIPRTP@GSK.COM
JULIE.D.MCFALLS@GSK.COM
LAURA.M.MCCULLEN@GSK.COM

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/502,519	Applicant(s) ANDERSON ET AL.	
	Examiner RAKESH KUMAR	Art Unit 3651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 19-52, 5 and 55-77 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 16-18, 53 and 54 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 12-15 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/23/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5,7-11,34,37,39,40 and 70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Everett (EP000469814A1).

Referring to claims 1,2,7,34-37,39,40 and 70. Everett discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 1) for containing plural elongate form medicament carriers (38 and 38a), each having multiple distinct medicament dose portions (40) carried thereby, said dispenser having a dispensing mechanism (including 27,35,31,33 and 32) for dispensing the distinct medicament dose portions (40) carried by each of said plural medicament carriers (38 and 38a), said mechanism comprising;

at least one receiving station (34) for receiving each of the plural medicament carriers (Figure 1);

a release (31) for releasing in combination a distinct medicament dose portion (41a) from each of the plural medicament carders (38 and 38a) on receipt thereof by said receiving station (34);

an outlet (22), positioned to be in communication with the distinct medicament dose portions (40) releasable by said release (31); and

at least one indexer (27) for individually indexing the distinct medicament dose portions (40) of each of the plural medicament carriers (38 and 38a).

Referring to claim 3. Everett discloses a medicament dispenser wherein a common receiving station (34) receives each of the plural medicament carriers (38 and 38a).

Referring to claim 4. Everett discloses a medicament dispenser comprising plural distinct receiving stations (34) each for receiving a single medicament carriers (38 and 38a).

Referring to claim 5. Everett discloses a medicament dispenser wherein said release (31) comprises means to access medicament carried by said medicament carrier (38) by a rupturing, puncturing, tearing or peeling action (see Figure 1).

Referring to claim 8. Everett outlet (22) is shaped to encourage mixing of the medicament.

Referring to claims 9 and 10. Everett discloses plural distinct indexers (see teeth on member 26 engaged member 39; Figure 5).

Referring to claim 11. Everett discloses plural distinct indexers as being mutually coupled (see gear 26).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6,12-15,19-33,38,41-52,56-69 and 71-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Everett in view of Davies (US 5,873,360).

Referring to claim 6. Everett discloses all claimed limitations of claim 6 however Everett does not disclose a release comprising a peelable blister strip.

Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) wherein the release comprises a peelable blister strip (401).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the teaching of Everett to include a peelable blister strip as a medicament carrier as taught by Davies because the dispenser would be operable with different types.

Referring to claims 12,19,20,30,38,41-52,56-69 and 71-77. See Claim rejections above. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) for containing plural blister strip (401) form medicament carriers, each having multiple distinct pockets (multiple 402 member on strip 401) for containing medicament dose portions, wherein said pockets (402) are spaced along the length of and defined between two peelable sheets (403a and 404) secured to each other, said dispenser having a dispensing mechanism (482b;

Figure 16b) for dispensing the medicament dose portions (402) contained within said plural medicament carriers (401), said mechanism comprising, an opening station (below member 218) for receiving a pocket (402) of each of said medicament carriers (401);

at least one peeler (204; Figure 9) positioned to engage a base sheet and a lid sheet of a pocket (402) which has been received in said opening station for peeling apart such a base sheet and lid sheet, to open such a pocket;

an outlet (220), positioned to be in communication with an opened pocket (402) through which a user can access a medicament dose portion from such an opened pocket; and

at least one indexer (including 224,226,227 and 222) for individually indexing the distinct pockets (402) of each of the plural medicament carriers (401).

Further more, the combinations of dosages and the type of medications contained within the medicament pockets can altered to suit a specific need of a user.

Referring to claim 30. See claim rejections 9-11 above.

Referring to claim 13. Everett discloses a dispenser for containing from two to four blister strips (Figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the teaching of Everett to include multiple blister strips in the dispenser because the useable life of the dispenser could extended.

Referring to claims 14 and 15. See rejections above.

Referring to claim 21. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) wherein said peeler (204) includes a lid driver (214) for pulling apart said lid sheet (404) and the base sheet (403).

Referring to claims 22,25 and 26. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) wherein the lid driver comprises a wheel (214) on which the lid is wound up, said wheel being arranged to progressively collapse (flexible) as the lid sheet becomes wound (see element 474; Figure 14).

Referring to claim 23. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) comprising control means (424) to control the movement of the lid driver (474).

Referring to claim 24. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) wherein the control means comprises a clutch (470).

Referring to claims 27 and 28. Davies discloses a medicament dispenser (Figure 2) wherein the flexible member (474) comprises a variable length spring (variable in the diameter of the flexible member).

Referring to claim 29. Davies comprises a guide (see interior portion of dispenser molded to guide the lid and the base sheet of the medicament carrier) for guiding the lid and the base sheets.

Referring to claim 31. Everett discloses chambers (17; Figure 1) for housing plural medicament carriers prior to opening.

Referring to claims 32 and 33. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the teaching of Everett in view of Davies such that the drive mechanism for indexing the dispensing mechanism is driven by an electronic drive system because the dispenser would be easier to use for elderly users.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 16-18,53,54 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAKESH KUMAR whose telephone number is (571)272-8314. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Crawford can be reached on (571) 272-6911. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Rakesh Kumar/
Examiner, Art Unit 3651

/Gene Crawford/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3651